(b) if so, the details thereof and the industries to be benefited therefrom; and

(c) since when the advantage of getting rebate from these taxes will be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) It is stated principle of the Government that all indirect taxes linked to export need to be rebated. Central Government indirect taxes on inputs are rebated by way of duty neutralization schemes such as Advance Authorization/DFIA Scheme, DEPB, Duty Drawback etc. There is no decision to rebate State Taxes to exporters (except already available facility of rebate of CST for units operating under EOU/SEZ/STP/EHTP/BTP Schemes).

Revenue losses due to concessions to SEZs

2032. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated revenue losses due to exemptions and concessions to the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for next five years; and

(b) the detailed breakup of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No such estimates have been made by this Department. However, the quantum of exemptions is dependent on the investments, exports and profits generated there from by the Developers and units.

Technical support to diamond and gold producing African nations

2033. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India *suo moto* offered technical support in skill training help to top diamond and gold producing African nations including South Africa; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and how and to what extent India will be benefitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per available information, during the meeting of the India Tanzania JTC, held in New Delhi on 16—18 May, 2007, the Tanzanian side appreciated India's strength in gem cutting, polishing and the jewellery sector and further indicated that Tanzania would encourage Indian industry to establish commercial units of precious and semi precious stones including gemstones, diamonds and gold. The Indian side offered to consider proposals for training in gem cutting and polishing for Tanzanians in India.

Further, during the meeting of the India-Namibia JTC in Feb. 18-19, 2008 in Namibia, the Namibian side emphasized the need for processing minerals within Namibia which could include participating by Indian joint venture companies. The Indian side indicated that Indian business interests in the gem and jewellery sector could be encouraged to set up joint ventures to beneficiate natural resources.